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INFORMATION REPORT

CD NO

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14 March 1952

SUBJECT Oil Field at Solnoye

NO. OF PAGES 2

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1. The Solnoye oil field extended 5 to 6 km northeast of Solnoye on the right bank of the Volga River, 60 km downstream from Kuibyshev. The construction of a macadamized road from Solnoye to the oil field started in 1945/1946. After this road was completed the construction of a narrow-gauge railroad on the oil field was started. There were no normal-gauge spur tracks on the field.
2. There were four derricks close to Solnoye and three more 2 to 3 km away. In 1946, the entire oil field had 21 derricks, most of which were wooden. In 1947 large shipments of material arrived for additional derricks. About 50 drilling and producing derricks were in operation by May 1949. * There were obviously several oil strata; the drillings were 400 to 500 meters deep and 300 to 1,000 meters deep. There were about 20 self-flowing wells in mid-1943, and about 40 in mid-1949.
3. Supply pipe lines, about 15 to 20 cm in diameter, led from the individual wells to several groups of crude oil tanks. About 20 oil tanks were seen in 1947, and almost 40 in 1948/1949. The tanks were 15 to 20 meters in diameter and in height. A group of tanks was close to the river bank where there were landing places and filling stations for oil tankers. The groups of tanks were connected with the filling stations by pipe lines, 3 to 4 cm in diameter. They were also connected with the main line to Kuibyshev, Patraki, Gagan. This main pipe line had a diameter of about 50 cm.
4. There was a large pumping station with a large number of intermediate pumping installations. In 1943 two Diesel units of 5,500 HP each were established for the operation of the turbines of the pumping station and for the generation of power, for the drilling and producing derricks.
5. On the outskirts of Solnoye, close to the tanker landing places, a refinery, covering an area of about 400x500 meters, was reported to be under construction. Shipments of about 20 tube boilers, fittings and pressure installations had already arrived. It was probably to be an oil filtering plant.
6. The total number of employees working in three shifts at the Solnoye oil field was estimated at about 7,500. **

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[REDACTED] Comment. A producing derrick (Foerderturm) is a derrick over a producing well.

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** [REDACTED] Comment. Attached are two sketch maps of the Solnoye area, based on information of the PWs. Solnoye is not indicated on available maps (scale 1:1,000,000).

2 Annexes: Blueprints

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Approved For Release 2003/08/06 : CIA-RDP82-00457R007000750001-5

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